Combination Of Talents Make Book Outstanding

By THERESA THOMAS Woman's Editor The talents of two North Carolinians are combined in a book just out. It is "The

Black Poet", "The Story of George Moses Horton, a North Carolina Slave."

The two men of talent are Richard Walser, professor of English at North Carolina State University at Raleigh, and Claude Howell, head of the art department of Wilmington College, an outstanding artist of North Carolina.

The book, written by Walser, is illustrated by Howell, whose line drawings add greatly to the absorbing book.

It is a story of a man born into slavery who composed verse almost as soon as he could read and published his first book before he could write.

A third man of genius is concerned with this book and he is the man about whom it was written. He was a slave in a day when to be a slave was to have no future. But he made himself a future with his poetry.

As a youngster, he wrote love poems for the students at the University at Chapel Hill. That was in a day when young men wooed their young ladies with flurid verse.

So, these three men, one from another era, combined their talents to produce a truly outstanding, warm work of art.

Walser, the author, has ed-

ited, written or prepared for publication some 20 books and has had numerous articles, both popular and scholarly, published. He was the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1958.

This is Howell's latest venture into illustrating. He is a well known painter with a distinct style that identifies his work instantly.

In the "Black Poet" he uses line drawings that utilize geo-

RICHARD WALSER . . Author

metric figures which are followed to their logical conclusion. There are four drawings in the book, all of which hold a fascination for the reader.

When asked if he would illustrate other books he smiled and replied, "Perhaps." It is to be hoped that "perhaps" means "yes" for his drawings are a brilliant addition to any book.



